



News Release

National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Office of Inspector General
Washington, DC 20546

For Release
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COMPUTER "HACKER" ARRESTED

On July 11, 2000, a 15 year-old Rocky Point, Long Island, NY, youth was arrested for hacking into three NASA computer systems on two separate occasions. The juvenile was charged with one count of Computer Tampering 2nd Degree (Class D Felony), and one count of Computer Tampering 3rd Degree (Class E Felony) in Suffolk County, New York. The Rocky Point High School student was later released into the custody of his father for a scheduled appearance in Family Court.

The juvenile was alleged to have broken into a NASA contractor computer system belonging to the Goddard Institute for Space Studies on Long Island in November 1999. Later that same month the youth also broke into two NASA web servers located at the Langley Research Center in Hampton, Virginia. The youth defaced the web pages by altering system files and uploading new files to display images relating to the hacking group "SSH".

Complaints May Be Referred To The NASA OIG Hotline At:
800-424-9183

The investigation was conducted by Special Agents of the NASA Office of Inspector General, Office of Criminal Investigations, Computer Crime Division, and Detectives from the Suffolk County Police Department, Office of the Chief of Detectives, Computer Crimes Division

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